



## Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

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### SEMA Gets New Email Addresses

SEMA will have a new Internet web Home Page address beginning January 1, 2004. The new address will be [www.sema.dps.mo.gov](http://www.sema.dps.mo.gov). SEMA employees received new email addresses that are effective immediately. The addresses use the [firstname.lastname@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:firstname.lastname@sema.dps.mo.gov). An example is [susie.stonner@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:susie.stonner@sema.dps.mo.gov). Please note the old address will continue to accept mail for several months.

### 63 Communities Receive Grants for CERT Training

Sixty-three Missouri communities will receive Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) grants ranging from \$3,551.07-\$14,460.67 to conduct training that will enable their local citizens to respond to all types of emergencies. The State Emergency Management Agency received and funded 63 CERT grant applications totaling \$283,549.77.

The 63 communities are: the Counties of Barry/Lawrence, Bates, Boone, Buchanan, Cape Girardeau, Cedar, Christian, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Cole, Crawford, Dade, DeKalb, Douglas, Dunklin, Greene/Springfield, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Laclede, Lewis, Marion, Mercer, Pettis, Platte, Polk, Scott, St. Louis, Stoddard, Warren and Washington; and the Cities of Kirksville, Butler, Columbia, Harrisonville, Pacific, Washington, Independence, Lee's Summit, Kansas City, Sugar Creek, Arnold, Higginsville, Portageville, St. Charles, Wentzville, University City, Maplewood, Manchester, Hazelwood, Florissant, Ferguson, Eureka, Chesterfield, Ellisville, Wildwood, Ballwin, Creve Coeur, St. Louis City and Branson.

### Cell Phone Users and 911 Centers

Many Missouri counties with E-911 services receive funding from a 10% tariff on the base charge on county landlines. Cell phone users use the E-911 service but they do not pay for it. For example nearly 40% of all calls into the Greene County 911 Center are from cell phones. Missouri voters have soundly defeated two referendums seeking a 50-cent a month tax on wireless phones to help pay for the statewide 911 system. Increasing fees to landline users to cover the increased costs associated with cell calls is not acceptable.

During the last legislative session, the Missouri Senate endorsed a plan to allow individual counties to ask voters to impose a 50-cent cell phone fee to benefit their local E-911 centers. The General Assembly will be tackling E-911 funding/tariff issues this legislative session.

### Marion County Voters Pass 911 Funding

By a 2-1 measure, voters in Marion County voted to change the 911 funding mechanism on Nov. 4. Beginning next spring, the city will increase the city sales tax by ¼ cent per \$1 to finance 911 activities and will remove the monthly surcharge on landline telephones to finance the 911 operations. Surveys showed most 911 calls were made by cell phones – which are not taxed to support the county 911 operations.

### Cape County Project Seeks to Produce 25 Emergency Supply Kits

Cape Girardeau County Emergency Management Action Committee (EMAC) is collecting donations from county businesses and individuals to purchase and supply 25 emergency medical supply kits. Each proposed kit is

capable of treating minor to moderate injuries for 60 people. The kits cost approximately \$200 to stock with supplies. The kits would be placed across the county in preparation for a disaster where fast access to extra supplies is essential. The Jackson Wal-Mart's donation purchased the first 13 empty trunks.

The Cape project is similar to the Perry County EMAC project which placed 12 emergency supply kits in different locations across Perry County two years ago.

## **22 Missouri Fire Departments Receive Grants**

FEMA announced that 22 Missouri Fire Departments received Fire Grants in rounds – 19, 20, and 21 announcements. Those departments receiving grants for Fire Operations & Firefighter Safety were: Butler County FPD (\$49,659) Corder FPD (\$48,758); Fishing River FPD (\$20,808); Hardin FPD (\$43,447); Hermann FD (\$34,492); High Ridge FPD (\$145,800); Hornersville VFPD (\$119,560); Jericho Springs FPD (\$45,009); Knox City and Rural FD (\$13,824); Maplewood FD (\$63,778); Marble Hill Fire & Rescue (\$54,000); Montgomery Volunteer FPD (\$146,606); New Melle FPD (\$169,722); North Central Carroll FPD (\$30,787); Northwest FPD (\$41,103); Perry VFD (\$27,612); Rolla Fire & Rescue (\$52,220); St. Charles City FD (\$226,532); and Versailles City FD (\$34,871).

Those departments receiving grants for Firefighting vehicles are: Olympic Rural FD (\$53,550); Lancaster Fire & Rescue (\$27,000). Those departments receiving grants for Fire Prevention are: Bolivar FD (\$26,844).

## **FEMA Announces Opening of Application Period for FY 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants**

The application period for the 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program is open through November 14, 2003. The online application is address: <https://portal.fema.gov>. Fire departments having questions regarding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program can reach the FEMA Grant Program staff at 1-866-274-0960, or via email at [usfagrants@fema.gov](mailto:usfagrants@fema.gov).

## **News Updates from NEMA**

**EMPG update** – FEMA said that FY04 EMPG guidance is undergoing internal DHS review. EMPG funding is used to support state EMA operations. Missouri also uses some of these funds to support local EMPG communities.

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation Authorization** – expires on December 31, 2003. If PDM is not reauthorized before Congress recesses for the year before Thanksgiving, PDM may not be included in the FY 2005 budget.

**National Flood Insurance Program** – The Senate has approved a bill to reauthorize the NFIP through December 31, 2004. The bill has been forwarded to the House for consideration.

**New ODP Director** – Sue Mencer is the new Director of the Office of Domestic Preparedness. Prior to her appointment, Mencer was the Colorado Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Advisor

**FEMA Recovery Director** – Dan Craig is the new director of FEMA's Recovery Division. Prior to joining FEMA, Craig was executive director of the Eastern Regional Office of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and a legislative representative for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Assn.

## **New Course Helps Reduce Consequences of Disasters on Community Businesses**

FEMA is introducing a new course to raise awareness in communities for the need to reduce the consequences of disasters on small businesses. Small- to medium-sized businesses provide nearly 80 percent of the jobs in an average community, but are at great risk for failure after a disaster; some 30 to 40 percent never reopen after a disaster. Experience has shown that advance planning and mitigation can significantly increase the likelihood that these small businesses can survive a disaster, keeping a community economically viable and helping to fuel the recovery.

A course is being offered at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, in conjunction with the Economic Development Administration. The course will be offered at the National Emergency Training Center, in Emmitsburg, Md., only twice in 2004 - from April 12-16 and August 23-27. For more information, go to: <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/EMICourses/e464.asp>.